

REMARKS

Claims 16-27 are pending in the present application. As will be discussed below, Claim 1 has been cancelled, Claims 16, 19 and 20 have been amended and Claim 28 has been added. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, entry of the present amendment is requested.

The specification has been amended to update the paragraph added before the first line on page 1 of the specification and add a reference to the prior divisional application Serial No. 09/107,407.

Referring to page 2 of the Office Action, Claim 1 has been rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,127,499. Additionally, Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,991,226 to Kosel. *See*, page 4 of the Office Action.

Applicants have cancelled Claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is requested.

Referring to page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 16-27 have been rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1 and 2 of U.S. Patent No. 6,313,197 to Symes *et al.* ("Symes").

It is indicated that "although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the dispersion in liquid electrolyte both of said patent encompasses the instant liquid detergent."

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the following reasons.

Symes claims a dispersion in liquid electrolyte and a process in which is dispersion of aqueous polymer particles is formed in a non-aqueous liquid containing a stabilizer.

In contrast, the instant claimed application, is directed to liquid detergent compositions. Applicants respectfully submit that the present claimed invention would not have been *prima facie* obvious from Claims 1 and 2 of Symes because they do not teach or suggest liquid detergent compositions.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claims 16-27 of the present Application are not obvious from the subject matter of Claims 1 and 2 of Symes. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Referring to pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action, Claims 16, 19 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as assertedly being indefinite.

Specifically, Claims 16 and 20 have been criticized as including improper Markush language. Additionally, claim 19 has been criticized as including a broad range and a more preferred range.

In response, Claims 16 and 20 have been amended to more clearly recite the Markush groups. Additionally, Claim 19 has been amended for clarity to delete the more preferred range of the amount of the reactive monomer units in the stabilizer. The more preferred range has been presented in new Claim 28.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the present claimed invention now more clearly complies with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

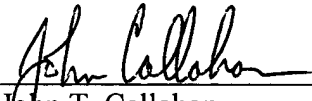
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No.: 09/917,950

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



John T. Callahan
Registration No. 32,607

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: July 19, 2002

APPENDIX
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification is amended as follows:

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This is a continuation of Application No. 09/635,263 filed August 9, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,313,197, which was a divisional of Application No. 09/107,407, filed June 30, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,127,499, the [disclosure] disclosures of which [is] are incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 is canceled.

The claims are amended as follows:

16. (Amended) A liquid detergent composition comprising polymer particles having reacted onto their surfaces a polymeric amphipathic stabiliser comprising an addition polymer of hydrophobic monomer units and hydrophilic monomer units wherein the hydrophilic monomer units comprise carboxylic free acid or acid salt units and reactive monomer units selected from the group consisting of (a) glycidyl monomer units and (b) anhydride monomer units wherein the amount of anhydride units is either below 10% by weight total monomer units or is less than 19% by weight total carboxylic acid monomer units.

19. (Amended) The liquid determine of claim 16 in which the amount of the reactive monomer units in the stabilizer is 1 to 5% [, preferably 1 to 3%,] by weight.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No.: 09/917,950

20. (Amended) The liquid detergent of any preceding claims 16 to 19 in which the reactive monomer units in the stabilizer are selected from the group consisting of glycidyl acrylate and glycidyl methacrylate.

Claim 28 is added as new claims.